



North Fork Prescribed Burn

Information: (540) 525-1539



<http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3792/>

*USDA Forest Service
George Washington and Jefferson
National Forests*

*Clinch
Ranger District*

April 12 and 13, 2014

Location	The North Fork Prescribed Burn is located approximately two miles west of the town of Pound, Virginia in Wise County. It is west of highway 23, and south of highway 119 near the North Fork of Pound Reservoir.
Estimated Acreage	Approximately 5,000 acres
Overview	The North Fork Prescribed Burn consists of approximately 5,000 acres of mountainous National Forest System land on the Clinch Ranger District of the Jefferson National Forest. The burn will be visible from Highway 23, and smoke from the incident could impact the communities of Pound, Virginia, and Jenkins, Kentucky. The Burn is scheduled to be take place on April 12 and 13, weather pending.
Resources	Approximately 90 firefighters and support staff, including two hotshot crews, one Flatwoods Job Corps Center Crew, two engines, and a helicopter are assisting with the prescribed burn.
Closures	Hopkins Branch/Laurel Fork Trail (#206), Phillips Creek Loop Trail (#202), Pine Mountain Trail (#201), and Red Fox Trail (#205). It is recommended to avoid the north shore of the North Fork of Pound Lake due to potential fire activity.
Fire Weather	<p>Saturday Weather: Partly sunny, with a high near 73 degrees. South winds at 7 to 15 mph, with gusts up to 25 mph. Minimum humidity, 35 percent.</p> <p>Saturday Night Weather: Mostly clear, with a low around 52 degrees. Southwest winds 12 to 17 mph, with gusts as high as 35 mph. Maximum humidity, 89 percent.</p> <p>Sunday Weather: Mostly sunny, with a high near 77 degrees. Southwest winds 12 to 14 mph, with gusts up to 25 mph. Minimum humidity, 36 percent.</p>
General Fire Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The North Fork Prescribed Burn will reduce accumulations of forest debris. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Fuels such as grass, leaves, and brush accumulate and create fire hazards. By burning the area under controlled conditions these fuels are removed, decreasing the amount of fuel that is available to burn during a wildfire. ○ Many landscapes are out of ecological balance. When the conditions are right, fire is one way to help restore that balance in landscapes so they become more resilient to threats. • The North Fork Prescribed Burn reintroduces fire to critical plant and wildlife habitat. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Prescribed fire creates healthy forests by reducing vegetation that competes for light, moisture, and nutrients. ○ Scientific research demonstrates that historically, fire occurred every three to fifteen years in oak-hickory forests, promoting plant growth, creating beneficial food, and establishing excellent habitat for many animals. • Safety of the public and firefighters is always the number one priority when dealing with wildfires and prescribed burns. • Smoke from the North Fork Prescribed Burn may be visible near the communities of Pound, Jenkins, and surrounding areas for several days. • Homeowners can learn how to make their homes less susceptible to wildfires by visiting: www.firewise.org. • Places to find prescribed fire information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Inciweb: http://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/3792/

**To be Added to the Information Distribution List, Contact: Michael Williams, Public Information Officer:
(540) 525-1539, or mrwilliams04@fs.fed.us**